

OIL

Price of a barrel of petroleum today:

US\$ 41.17

INSIDE TODAY

U.S. NEWS

SUICIDE SPIKE



U.S. soldiers from 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division stand in formation as local sheiks attend a ceremony transferring Joint Security Station al-Awad to Iraqi control near Taji, 12 miles north of Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009.

See **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

SPORTS NEWS

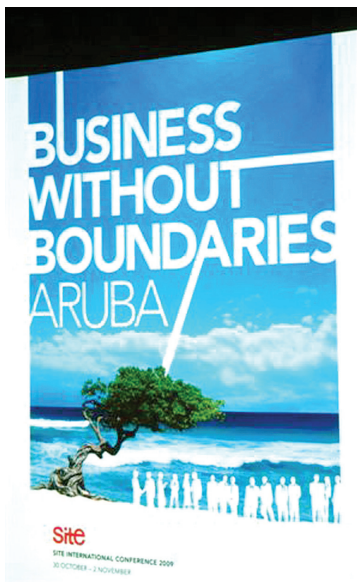
TORRID PINES



Camilo Villegas, of Colombia, pumps his fist after chipping in on the 17th hole of the North Course at Torrey Pines in the opening round of the Buick Invitational golf tournament Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009, in San Diego. Villegas shot a 9-under-par 63 and is the first-round leader.

See **Sports Today**

Site International Executives meet with local committee members



PALMBEACH—Aruba will be hosting the Site International Conference October 30th to November 2nd, with members of the Society of Incentive & Travels Executives from all over the world convening here for an important business forum.

Heather Nash, Director of Events & Industry Relations for SITE, and Freddy Muller, 2009 International Conference Chair, and Aruba's own Wichita



Villacres, who was appointed by SITE International as the co-chair of the IC 2009, met just recently with local committee members entrusted with the organization of the event designed to show case Aruba to the esteemed SITE members.

SITE has selected the island as the host country for the 2009 International Conference, which will bring together the top minds in incentive travel,

a multi-billion dollar global industry. The visitors will enjoy three days of educational sessions, vendor showcases, roundtables, networking events, gala dinners and much more.

The 2009 International Conference will be held at the two official host hotels, The Westin Aruba Resort and the Radisson Aruba Resort,

Casino & Spa.

Pictured here the most congenial business meeting at the Westin Aruba Resort, where Heather Nash, Freddy Muller and Wichita Villacres met their local counterparts, the island's host committee under the guidance of the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association and the Aruba Tourism Authority. □




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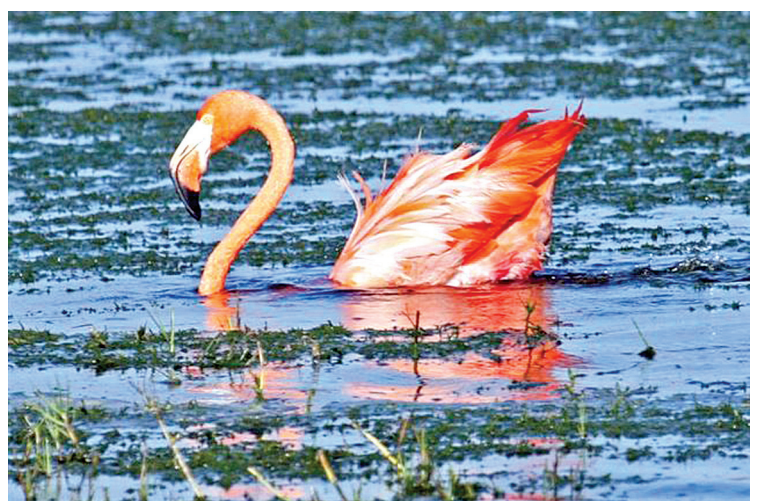
Guess who Came to Dinner at Tierra del Sol



WEST PUNT - Oliver Riding, Head Golf Professional at Tierra del Sol reports that Aruba's premier resort and home of Aruba's only 18 hole championship golf course got very important visitors. Those who have played the course know how holes 12 through 15 wind through a large nature preserve combining water and desert landscapes, with hole 15 presenting a breathtaking par three vista over water. Those environmentally protected marshlands have always been home to many different species of birds and this week received a visit from two beautiful Caribbean Flamingos.

If you haven't made it over to Tierra del Sol yet, do so, enjoy the island's premier golf course, the great views of the Caribbean Sea, rabbits, owl, water birds and the two newest stars - the Flamingos.

We asked our friend Greg Peterson, a known bird photographer to take a look, and above you will see his pictures. The VIP visitors were feasting over shrimp and hardly had time to lift their heads for a snapshot, but Greg's famous patience prevailed. □



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NOTICE:

Casino chips with old Aruba Marriott Sail Boat Logo can be cashed out at the Casino Cage until July 1, 2009.

No chip exchange is possible after July 1, 2009

Aruba to be featured in popular Canadian publication



ORANJESTAD -Alexandra Breen, editor of Flare Magazine of Canada was recently in Aruba. She spend a week in Aruba to experience firsthand what Aruba has to offer to its visitors so to formulate her editorial piece featured in their November Issue. Flare Magazine is a Canadian magazine with a distribution of more than a Million copies, of which Aruba will be receiving 8 pages in the month of April



and editorials in the month of November.

During her stay in Aruba, Alexandra visited different tourist locations and lodged in different hotels like the Occidental Grand Aruba, Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort, Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino, Bucuti Beach Resort and Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa.

She also enjoyed a catamaran ride, courtesy of De Palm Pleasure, and also the Seatrek adventure at the De Palm Island which was something she had never done before. She relaxed at the Okeanos Spa and went off-road with Tomcar's at the north side of the Island. Alexandra, also experienced the culinary expertise of our Island, she dined at fine restaurants like, Papiamento Restaurant, L. G. Smith Steak and Chop House, Palms Restaurant, Screaming Eagle, MooMba and on her last night at Driftwood Restaurant, where she had a chance to taste our funchi and pan bati which she loved. She was also impressed with the donkey sanctuary which one day earlier welcomed baby Roulette to the world. She loved the ECO Lodge concept of Cunucu Arubiano & Mr. Paris gave her an elaborate interview on the concept.

The Aruba Tourism Authority would like to extend thanks to all who helped in one way or another, to make this visit and lodging of Alexandra an eventful and fruitful one. □



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Future of Parliamentary Consultation POK unsure

THE HAGUE--The next Parliamentary Consultation of the Kingdom POK meeting in June might not go ahead.

The Permanent Committees for Antillean and Aruban Affairs NAAZs of the Dutch First and Second Chambers decided on Tuesday to link the meeting to a number of conditions. It was generally agreed that POK in its current form could not proceed.

After a full hour of discussion on whether the next POK meeting should proceed after the meeting in Aruba early January this year turned out to be a failure, Second Chamber NAAZ Committee Chairperson Willibrord van Beek proposed to send a letter to Willemstad and Oranjestad in which Dutch Parliament states that the date of the meeting will depend on the report by the newly installed Committee on Democratic Deficit and the process of handling Kingdom consensus laws.

Members of the two NAAZ committees generally supported the proposal by Member of Parliament (MP) Johan Remkes of the liberal democrats VVD to put the POK meetings on hold until the Committee on Democratic Deficit had presented its report. Remkes expected that report to be ready just before the summer recess or maybe even after the summer, which would be too late for the next POK gathering in The Hague in June.

Not conducive

Remkes suggested holding the POK meeting in the later part of 2009. By then the Committee on Democratic Deficit would have presented its report. Besides, he reasoned, the Parliaments still had to handle a number of draft Kingdom consensus laws needed to realise new constitutional relations in the Dutch Kingdom.

Remkes said the POK in its current form was not conducive to discuss this legislation. He suggested smaller, inter-parliamentary theme discussions. Remkes

said the POK meetings had yielded no result until now. The gatherings were "ineffective" and did "more harm than good," he said.

MPs Bas Jan van Bochove of the Christian Democratic Party CDA and Ineke van Gent of the green left party GroenLinks initially proposed using June's POK meeting to evaluate the findings of the Committee on Democratic Deficit and to talk about POK's status and its future.

Old shoes

Van Bochove warned against a unilateral decision by the Netherlands to cancel POK. Using a Dutch saying, he said one should not throw out one's old shoes before acquiring a new pair.

Van Gent was equally careful in giving her opinion. "Improvements are needed, but let's keep our heads cool and our hearts warm," she said, noting that it was wrong to take drastic decisions based on emotions. She said she was in favour of "re-animating" POK, but was quick to add that the islands should become more flexible about painful agenda points like same-sex marriages, the Isla refinery and Bon Futuro Prison.

Labour party PvdA MP John Leerdam appeared concerned about the level of discussions and the atmosphere at the POK meetings. He said it was important for the Parliaments to discuss issues of common interest, but this should not take place in a confrontational manner. "We shouldn't attack each other. It shouldn't be us versus them," said Leerdam. He too referred to the saying about throwing out old shoes.

Hostile

MP Ronald van Raak of the

Socialist Party (SP) didn't see a problem in throwing out old shoes without having a new pair at hand. "If the soles of your shoes are completely worn, it is sometimes less painful to continue to walk barefoot," he said.

He qualified the POK meetings as "tiresome and sometimes very hostile" and suggested discontinuing them until the new constitutional relations had been established. "Then we can make new agreements and give new content," he said.

First Chamber NAAZ Committee Chairperson Marijke Linthorst mentioned that the significance of the Antillean Parliament had been diminishing. First Aruba left in 1986, now the BES islands Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba are being "lifted out" as they will become "public entities" of the Netherlands. Soon the Antillean Parliament will only represent Curaçao and St. Maarten, Linthorst remarked.

No miracles

Linthorst didn't expect miracles from the Committee on Democratic Deficit. She said the Antilles and Aruba would be greatly disappointed if they counted on the committee coming up with a solution for POK's status. She said it was primarily up to the Dutch Parliament to ensure that POK became more about content and less about chatter.

Members generally agreed that it wouldn't be proper for the Netherlands to unilaterally discontinue POK and that they would have to solve the issue together with their colleagues on the islands, except for MP Hero Brinkman of the Party



Hero Brinkman, who was expelled from the Dutch delegation after his continuous allegations during the January 2009 POK meetings in Aruba that the Aruban government was corrupt and its Justice Minister a liar, said he would not accept being thrown out the next time.

for Freedom PVV. "POK is dead and a waste of money and time," he stated. "I was always against POK and still am," he said, calling for a cancellation of the June meeting.

Brinkman, who was expelled from the Dutch delegation after his continuous allegations during the January 2009 POK meetings in Aruba that the Aruban

government was corrupt and its Justice Minister a liar, said he would not accept being thrown out the next time. He said he would continue his direct words.

Brinkman also called for Van Beek's resignation as delegation leader. He said Van Beek was incapable of leading a delegation. In response, other members gave Van Beek compliments.

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Representing Champagne Carnival Group

“The Flower of the Dragon” presented tonight

ORANJESTAD - Alina Mansur, candidate # 3 representing Champagne Carnival Group, will present an enchanting theme “Flower of the Dragon” during Aruba’s 55th Carnival Queen Election. Stories of mystical lands, dragons, and a warrior princess come to life at the

Aruba Entertainment Center Friday February 6th. The legend of “The Flower of the Dragon” tells a story of the adventures of a warrior princess who mesmerizes the Dragons with her charm and beauty. Dance, Literature, Poetry, Song, Theatre and Dance are the weapons of this

warrior princess. Alina Mansur will transform the Aruba Entertainment Center in a magical celebration of “The Flower of the Dragon”. At the evening’s beginning till it’s end Alina will present her theme in a broad spectrum of unsurpassed creativity. Alina Mansur invites one and all to be present this Friday - February 6th at the Aruba Entertainment Center to be part of this one of a kind Carnival celebration. A warm and loving embrace go to all members of the SAC for their hard work and Carnival’s 55th celebration ☐



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Geox Delivers on the Promise of Happy Feet



ORANJESTAD – A new concept store recently checked into the Renaissance Mall and is delivering the promise of happy feet to Aruba. The brand revolutionizing the

way we feel about shoes is Geox and the new store carries a large selection of styles for kids and adults, both ladies and gents.

The very popular Italian brand has stores prominently located in every large city across the Europe and every stylish shopping mall.

After buying the first pair, just out of curiosity, most individuals find themselves totally sold on the brand. They start wearing the state-of-the-art Geox shoes every day.

“The shoes look tremendous,” says a company spokesperson, “they have a contemporary chic design, yet the reason why the Geox brand took off like wildfire in both Europe and the US is the patented technology



which calls for micro-pores, small holes punctured in the soles, allowing the shoe “to breathe,” basically letting air come in and excess heat escape.”

“It’s a genial concept,” he continues, “and people who stand and walk during many working hours will find that feet wearing Geox are happy, and are never bothered by the heat.”

You are invited to try a pair of Geox shoes for yourself and enjoy an unexpected discovery which you will then want to share with fellow-islanders, neighbors, friends and above all family members.

The new Geox concept store in Aruba is planning to spread the good news across the Caribbean, and negotiated with the Italian brand with the intention of opening more regional stores.

The Geox shoes are perfect for the tropics, as the perforated soles allow all the moisture naturally trapped inside ordinary shoes, to leave. And while it is natural for feet to sweat, Geox keeps feet healthy and dry, smelling sweet, and at the same time preventing water and debris from entering.

The concept store at the Renaissance Mall offers



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If you did not receive the water bill please call 525-4200 and we will fax or email the bill or we can inform you how much needs to be paid in order to pay at one of the government offices.

In order to pay at one of the government offices, you must know the account number (number di percela) of the bill and the amount that needs to be paid.



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extensive collections for kids, because the shoe is especially beneficial for super-active children who tend to sweat as much as adults, in high temperatures.

Hospitality workers, and anyone relying on cool, comfortable feet, will surely find Geox the best buy ever, a good fit at the right style, at a fair price.

Geox shoes which hail from Italy, have been sold in the USA for the last 10 years and are now taking the rest of the world by storm. □





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The hottest Cuban show ticket on the island!

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Friday Flamenco Fiesta; Well Worth The Short Trip Downtown
Paella & Flamenco at Casa Tua Downtown on Friday

DOWNTOWN - Casa Tua draws a crowd of local and not-so-local folks who can't seem to get enough of the pizza and the place. There's almost always a wait here, even if you have reservations, so place yourself at the bar with the smell of brick oven pizzas wafting to other tables, and knowing that at some point, that bliss will be yours. Al fresco dining is designed with a chicly rustic feel. The atmosphere is cool and relaxed, "Casa Tua" meaning "Your Home" in Italian. With a Sicilian-style thin crust, dripping with cheese and fresh-made tomato sauce, this pizza comes with a variety of toppings in the meat and veggie categories. Pasta dishes, full Italian meals like Lasagne and veal Osso Buco, fresh salads and rich desserts are also on the menu.



Casa Tua's famous secret thin crust recipe was handed down by an Italian chef, known locally as "the pizza master", in the French student city of Montpellier in 1969. This recipe has been perfected over the years to such a point where Casa Tua is known on the island these days for the best pizza. Period.

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Beachside Dining in that 'just right' atmosphere
Matthew's gets it right



EAGLE BEACH - Located at Casa del Mar resort in Eagle Beach, Matthew's is the brain child of Stefan Legger, who owned and operated Rumba Bar & Grill for 6 years. Matthew's redefines the concept of a beachside restaurant, delivering an exquisite blend of fine dining and comfort food with that 'sand on your toes' feeling. The staff is extremely friendly and demonstrate very clearly that they are there for one thing; you. Also being a very wanted venue for events

and weddings, it very advisable to call and make a reservation, but if you want to just give it a go, no problem. Matthew's has a great bar which will keep you abreast of all the action, whether it's sports on one of their 3 TV's, or what cocktails the bartenders can whip up for you. Besides breakfast, lunch and dinner, Matthew's offers all you can eat spareribs on Tuesdays, Champagne brunch on Sundays and of course their famous daily happy hours with live music at the bar.



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Daily from 7:30am till 10:00pm

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Every dish a surprise to the senses
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PASEO HERENCIA - Moby Dick's has one mission; to take you to the depths of the blue ocean to taste some of the most exquisite dishes to come from the deep. What a truly beautiful restaurant this is, and what a unique interior to match. The

inside is studded with artwork, amazing glass carvings, and both floors are dominated by gigantic fountains, with water running from ceiling to floor along multicoloured lit fibre optic cables. The stairway is lined by an impressive painting



which runs along the complete wall. The menu promises to be a true seafood lovers dream. Lobsters, fresh fish fillets, shrimps, Moby Dick's has everything on the menu. There is of course a land lubbers section for those who are so disposed. The wine list is impressive to say the least, and the cocktails are definitely worth a taste. Moby Dick's is open for lunch as well. The chef has made a well rounded, extensive

menu for you to choose from. You will find what you want, whatever your craving may be at that time. The staff is amongst the friendliest on the island, ever so attentive to your every whim. So long story short, for unbelievable seafood in unique surroundings, go to Moby Dick's. You'll have a whale of a time!

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PALM BEACH - Come spend the night at Kool Runnings celebrating Legend of Reggae Bob Marley's birthday on February 6th, 2009. The celebration starts at 7PM with live reggae music by Rots Rebel & DJ Danny Platinum... This is your one stop for the best "real" Caribbean Cuisine accompanied by the unique flavors of Red Stripe Beer, Guinness, and Me Ting.

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With the cooperation of many, they managed to make it back to Aruba "safe & sound"

The Crew Of "K-Pricho" Would Like To Thank All Who Helped In Bonaire



ORANJESTAD - "I don't have the words to thank all the people who helped us in these troublesome times we went through. It wasn't easy, but if it wasn't for those people this story might have ended in a totally different way," that's what Alwin Boekhoudt said. He's referring to the incident of the 24th of January 2009 when they left on their 46 foot yacht "K-Pricho" to attend the "Blue Marlin Fishing Tournament" in Bonaire.

After 6 years with this yacht, he could have never believed he'd be in that situation.

The crew of K-Pricho was in 1st place in the tournament, based on the quantity of fish they caught the first day of the competition, and at about 4:00pm they started smelling smoke from the engine room. When the captain went to control, he came upon giant flames roaring from the engine room. They tried fighting the fire, but to no avail.



The crew grabbed their lifejackets and sent out an SOS over the radio. The first yacht that answered was "Makaira" from Mr. Henk Beyen and his crew. In record time the crew got to the site and helped the K-Pricho crew who had jumped ship. The K-Pricho yacht went up in flames and sank to the bottom of the ocean close to Bonaire.

The thank you list is very long of course, but the crew would not like to forget to thank anyone, especially God, that made sure everyone got out of this unharmed. Thanks go to Mr. Henk Beyen and his crew that responded quickly to save them and take them to Bonaire. Mr. Gerald Victoriano from Bonaire that helped the crew to get a house to stay in, clothes and food until they recovered all their documents who were at the bottom of the ocean. Also, Mr. Oslin Henriquez from the "Perfect Catch", who transported the whole crew back to Aruba. And we would also like to thank all people in Bonaire and Aruba who provided moral support. These words of thanks come especially from the owner of K-Pricho, Mr. Alwin Boekhoudt, Captain Haime Marin, Crew Members Marcel Heyden, and also Frans Heyden, Roy Simons, Glen Hagens & Filbert Kranwinkel who were also on board for the fishing tournament.

Pictured, we can see when the shots were captured from the Makaira Yacht, of K-Pricho on fire, and then Sinking to bottom of the ocean. "Materials are easily replaced, but thank god that we all were unharmed from the fire. I have no words to thank you all, without your support we would have not made it," so said Alwin Boekhoudt. □





Stocks jump as retail, tech stocks advance



Trader Ralph Massucci works in the S&P 500 pit at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange February 5, 2009.

REUTERS/John Gress (UNITED STATES)

Madlen Read And Tim Paradis,

Ap Business Writer

NEW YORK – Wall Street is getting a little daring once again.

Investors shook off weak economic readings Thursday and placed bets on retail and technology stocks after several companies posted better-than-expected sales and profit reports. The major indexes gained more than 1 percent, including the Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 106 points.

Retailers including Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Macy's Inc. turned in better-than-expected

sales figures for January.

Wal-Mart's sales beat Wall Street's forecasts after the chain drew shoppers focused on necessities like groceries. Macy's, which this week said it would slash 7,000 jobs, on Thursday raised its fourth-quarter and full-year forecasts after reporting its sales.

The industry's overall numbers were still weak as consumers again curtailed their spending, but not as bad as investors feared when they beat retail stocks down in recent months.

"We're being overly pessimistic on things like retailers," said Chris Cordaro, chief investment

officer at Regent Atlantic Capital LLC in Morristown, N.J. "People realize you're going to have shop somewhere."

The technology-laden Nasdaq composite index led the major market indicators after Akamai Technologies Inc. said its fourth-quarter earnings rose a better-than-expected 13 percent as more customers signed up for its Internet traffic-management services.

"The economy at some point will recover and when it does, tech is a pretty interesting play," said Subodh Kumar, global investment strategist at Subodh Kumar & Associates in Toronto. "It will likely be one of the first movers."

The reports helped the market overcome a flurry of bad economic news. Unemployment benefits claims rose last week to a 26-year high, and factory orders fell for the fifth straight month in December. However productivity rose by 3.2 percent in the fourth quarter, more than twice what analysts expected.

Investors are bracing for Friday's January employment report from the Labor Department. The monthly reading is one of the most important economic indicators because rising unemployment cuts into how much consumers spend. Consumer spending accounts

for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity.

"There are some indications tomorrow's unemployment report might not be as bad as expected," said Hugh Johnson, chief investment officer of Johnson Illington Advisors in Albany, N.Y.

A poor reading could deliver a big blow to the market, though expectations are low. Economists predict the unemployment rate rose to 7.5 percent in January from 7.2 percent in December. That would be the highest rate in 17 years.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow industrials rose 106.41, or 1.34 percent, to 8,063.07. The Dow fell as much as 111 points early in the session.

Broader stock indicators also rose. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 13.62, or 1.64 percent, to 845.85, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 31.19, or 2.06 percent, to 1,546.24.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 6.60, or 1.47 percent, to 455.08.

Advancing issues outnumbered losers by about 2 to 1 on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 1.63 billion shares.

Bond prices were mixed Thursday. The yield on the

benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite to its price, fell to 2.92 percent from 2.94 percent late Wednesday. The yield on the three-month T-bill was flat at 0.28 percent from late Wednesday.

The gains in stocks came as investors again looked to Washington for help on the economy. Wall Street is waiting for a \$920 billion economic stimulus plan to pass the Senate. Debate in the Senate continued for the fourth day Thursday.

Financial stocks recovered from early losses and helped lift the market following speculation the government could funnel aid to regional banks. Bank stocks also rose on reports that Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and other top officials are nearing completion of a plan to overhaul the government's \$700 billion financial rescue program. A Treasury official told The Associated Press that Geithner will deliver a speech on Monday outlining the new plan.

Bank stocks moved higher. JPMorgan Chase & Co. rose 50 cents, or 2.1 percent, to \$24.54, and PNC Financial Services Group Inc. rose \$1, or 3.5 percent, to \$29.83.

Regional banks also rose. Huntington Bancshares Inc. jumped 35 cents, or 24 percent, to \$1.79. Regions Financial Corp. rose 33 cents, or 13 percent, to \$2.83.

Retailers climbed after issuing their sales reports. Wal-Mart rose \$2.14, or 4.6 percent, to \$48.56, while Macy's rose 43 cents, or 5.2 percent, to \$8.75.

Among tech stocks, Akamai rose \$2.56, or 18 percent, to \$16.73.

The dollar was mostly higher against other major currencies. Gold prices also climbed.

Light, sweet crude rose 85 cents to settle at \$41.17 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Overseas, Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.01 percent, Germany's DAX index rose 0.39 percent, and France's CAC-40 slipped 0.09 percent. Japan's Nikkei stock average fell 1.11 percent.

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In this Jan. 28, 2009, file photo, actor Richard Jenkins poses for a portrait during the Santa Barbara Film Festival in Santa Barbara, Calif.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles, file)

By SANDY COHEN,
AP Entertainment Writer
WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. — You’ve seen Richard Jenkins. He was the dead patriarch on HBO’s “Six Feet Under” and the beleaguered gym director in 2008’s “Burn After Reading.” He’s played lots of dads (“Step Brothers,” “Rumor Has It,” “North Country”), cops (“The Mod Squad,” “Me, Myself and Irene”) and scores of other supporting characters during his 25 years in film. Now, with his first leading role, Jenkins is an Oscar nominee. “It’s unbelievable,” said the 61-year-old actor, sitting in the lobby of his favorite hotel. “This happens to other people, not to me.” Jenkins caught the eye of the academy — along with the Screen Actors Guild and Broadcast Film Critics Association — with his performance as buttoned-up, burned-out professor Walter Vale in the indie film “The Visitor.” The character is quiet yet arrogant, a man who oozes loneliness but can’t

Parker and gal pals plan more ‘Sex and the City’

LOS ANGELES — There’s still sex to be had in the city, even though Carrie Bradshaw has settled down with one man. New Line Cinema spokeswoman Candice McDonough confirms that “Sex and the City” star Sarah Jessica Parker, her three co-stars and writer-director Michael Patrick King are signed for a sequel to last year’s hit movie. The film will reunite Parker and gal pals Kim Cattrall, Kristin Davis and Cynthia Nixon. In a statement, King says: “I’m very excited to work with these amazing actresses again and would love to give everyone more information about the sequel ... but I’m busy with my ‘Sex’ life.” New Line parent Warner Bros. plans to have the sequel out in summer 2010. □

Veteran actor Richard Jenkins shares Oscar’s glow

seem to connect with anyone until a chance run-in with an immigrant couple awakens a new energy in him. Writer-director Tom McCarthy had dinner with Jenkins, then penned the part with the actor in mind. “The guy has a real integrity in his life and in the way he approaches work, and it

just felt really right for the character,” McCarthy said. “So when I went away to write, I kind of heard that voice and could see those eyes and that face, and it just made it really come alive for me on the page. It’s almost like having your character in 3-D.” It was an ideal opportunity, Jenkins said, one he never expected or sought. Though he often wondered what it would be like to carry a movie, he was happy — and steadily employed — as a character actor. “This was like a perfect storm of circumstances” to take on a leading role, he said. “At this time in my life, I saw it as an incredible opportunity and a gift.” It’s a long way from his drama-school days, when Jenkins was too intimidated to even audition.

“I was petrified,” he said, recalling a shell-shocked year on the sidelines as others took the stage. But after a phone call from the department head and a summer session immersed in theater, Jenkins knew that, for him, there was no business like show business. “I just wanted to do it. I felt fabulous doing it,” he said. “I liked the people. I liked the whole idea of it. I loved performing. I loved rehearsing... It never occurred to me to do anything else.” Jenkins has worked with some of the biggest names in the business. He’s been directed by Clint Eastwood, Sydney Pollack, Mike Nichols and George Miller. He’s acted with Jack Nicholson, Al Pacino, Dustin Hoffman, Sir Ben Kingsley and dozens of other stars. □

Domingo ready to reprise role from his youth

NEW YORK — Tenor Placido Domingo is filling in at the Metropolitan Opera in the same role that marked his triumphant Met debut 40 years ago. On Friday, the scene promises to be, well, operatic: thousands of opera lovers in a nearly sold-out house awaiting the now 68-year-old star as he enters in a part few tenors his age would dare tackle. The role of Maurizio in “Adriana Lecouvreur” (ah-dreeh-AH’-nah luh-cooh-VRUHR) was created in 1902 for the young Enrico Caruso, whose agile voice



In this photo provided by the Metropolitan Opera, Placido Domingo appears as Maurizio in Cilea

(AP Photo/Metropolitan Opera, Marty Sohl)

easily reached the highest notes in the score. Some in this week’s audience will no doubt hold their breaths, wondering: Can Domingo do it again? He was originally supposed to conduct the orchestra. But when the scheduled tenor was needed for another production, Domingo offered to sing it himself.



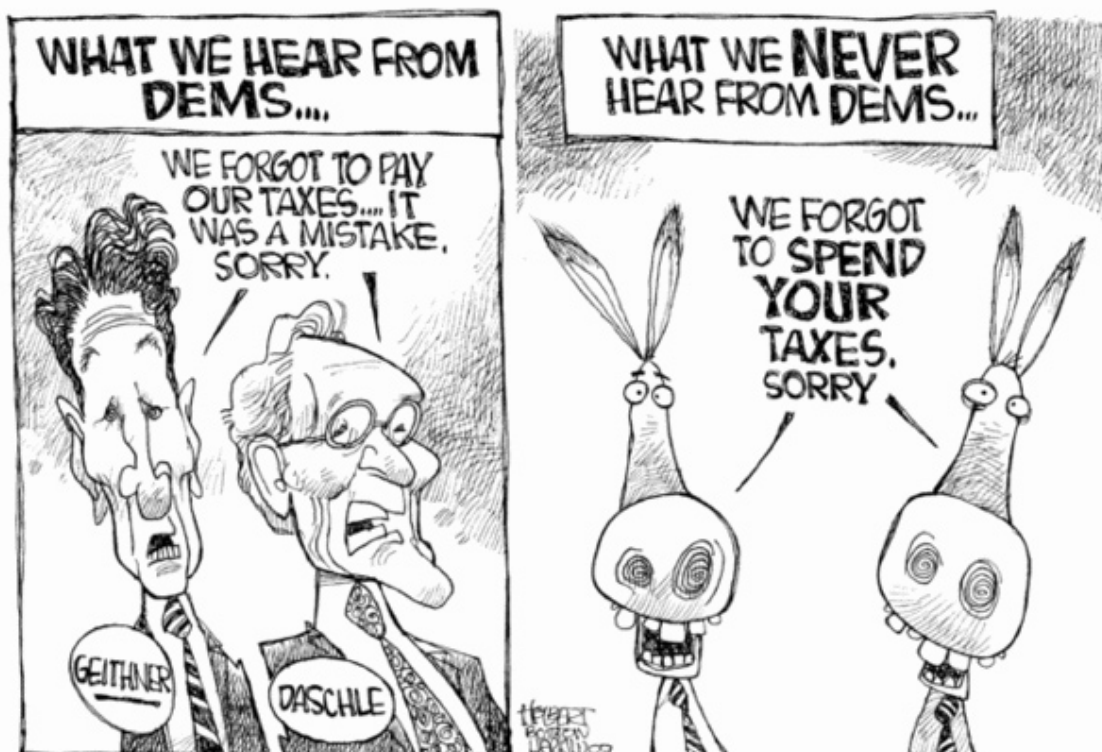
In this undated file photo released by New Line Cinema, Sarah Jessica Parker stars as Carrie Bradshaw in New Line Cinema’s ‘Sex in the City’.

(AP Photo/New Line Cinema, Craig Blankenhorn, File)

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After Obama's Daschle mea culpa

By the Monitor's Editorial Board

A United States president who admits a mistake is almost as rare as a Wall Street executive who refuses a bonus after losing money. When such humility strikes, it should be cheered to spur reform. But for a regretful Obama White House and a somewhat-rueful Wall Street, it's still unclear what reforms lie ahead for each.

President Obama admitted Tuesday he made mistakes after two of his cabinet nominees, Tom Daschle and Nancy Killefer, were forced to bow out because of revelations over their nonpayment of taxes. But what kind of mistakes?

One was clear. "There aren't two sets of rules," he told NBC News, "one for prominent people and one for ordinary folks who have to pay their taxes."

Still, how should Americans square that new-found lesson on double standards with the fact that another tax-dodging nominee, Tim Geithner, was made Treasury secretary? Or that Hillary Clinton became Secretary of State despite her husband being allowed to accept money for his foundation from foreign governments that also make deals with the top US diplomat?

And what of the White House vetting process or that two Obama nominees are former lobbyists or that the president backed Mr. Daschle to the end?

For a politician who promised a high bar of ethics and a new era of responsibility, this president still has far to go to understand why it is so easy for many in Washington to claim immunity or a sense of entitlement not available or accepted by other Americans.

When the Senate salutes one of its own, Republican Ted Stevens, despite his felony conviction, or the House leaves Democrat Charles Rangel as head of its tax-writing committee despite his avoidance of taxes, such lapses of common sense erode faith in government.

It also makes people wary of bigger government with new programs such as universal healthcare. The more power that Washington commands, the more temptation there is for exploitation by special interests and revolving-door politicians. Daschle, for instance, was slated to head up healthcare reform even though he used his Senate tenure to advise that industry and make millions.

Obama must do more than tinker on the edges of Washington's big-money culture of entitlement. Merely adding restraints on lobbyists, as he did in the first few days, fails to address the way Washington's expanding rulemaking and money dispensing create a larger lure for well-heeled interests to seek favors at the expense of the common good.

He also makes a similar minor reform in his proposal to cap compensation for Wall Street executives at \$500,000 if their firms accept federal aid. What he really needs to change are federal incentives for corporations to allow shareholders to have more say over pay packages. He must also change the tax structure to force companies to think more long-term than the next quarterly report. Greed in government can have as much impact as Wall Street's. Just ask the people of Illinois, which removed a governor who abused his power to extract donations for his election campaign. Obama's ratings as an ethical leader still remain high. Now he needs to show he also deserves praise for competence in ethics. □

Carnival 2009

QUEEN ELECTION

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Alina Mansur, candidate # 3 representing Champagne Carnaval Group, will present an enchanting theme "Flower of the Dragon" during Aruba's 55th Carnaval Queen Election. Stories of mystical lands, dragons, and a warrior princess come to life at the Aruba Entertainment Center Friday February 6th.

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pan-fried or the chef's choice. **Every Wednesday, seafood specials are prepared** depending on what the Fishermen bring in fresh out of the water that afternoon. These specials usually include fresh Caribbean lobster and pounds of peeled shrimps. **Fishes and More** is for everyone, from large groups, families, couples and even singles who can't shake the seafood addiction can stop in for a fix of Pina Colada Shrimp. For those who like to try something different or have had their fill of spectacular seafood, the chef prepares a wonderful array of filet



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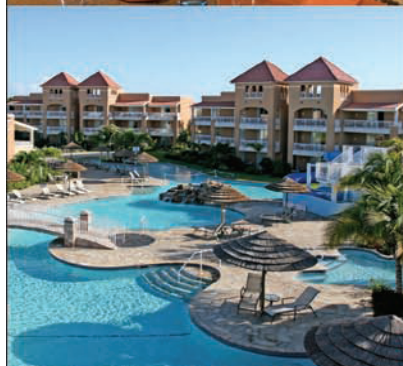
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Former Comptroller General David Walker, second from right, gestures during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009, urging the Obama Administration and Congress to take action to address the nation's growing financial problems. From left are: Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio, Senate Budget Committee Chairman Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., Rep. Jim Cooper, D-Tenn., Walker, and Rep. Frank R. Wolf, R-Va.

Associated Press

Obama seeks action as parties try to pare stimulus

By DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) - Senate moderates worked to cut tens of billions of dollars from the economic stimulus bill in hopes of clearing the way for passage Thursday as the U.S. government spit out grim new jobless figures and President Barack Obama warned of more bad news to come.

"The time for talk is over. The time for action is now," said Obama. He implored lawmakers in both parties to "rise to this moment" and send him legislation to begin fixing the worst economic crisis in decades.

Obama added he would "love to see additional improvements" in the bill, a gesture to the moderates from both parties at work on trying to trim the \$920 billion price tag.

But with the Senate plodding

through a fourth day of debate, earlier talk of a large, bipartisan vote for the legislation was fading.

"As I have explained to people in that group, they cannot hold the president of the United States hostage," said Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat. "If they think they're going to rewrite this bill and Barack Obama is going to walk away from what he is trying to do for the American people, they've got another thought coming."

Republicans countered that neither the president nor Democratic congressional leaders have been willing to seek common ground on the first major bill of the new administration.

"We're not having meaningful negotiations. ... It's a bad way to start," said Sen. John McCain, who was Obama's Republican opponent in last

November's presidential campaign.

In an Associated Press interview, he said Obama "gave the Democrats the leeway to basically shut out Republicans starting with the House and now here in the Senate, and I don't think that's good."

McCain's penchant for working across party lines has irritated fellow Republicans in the past, but he was not taking part in bipartisan talks on trimming the stimulus bill.

Nearly 20 senators from both parties met twice during the day and reviewed a list of possible cuts totaling nearly \$80 billion. They included elimination of at least \$40 billion in aid to the states, which have budget crises of their own, as well as \$1.4 billion ticketed for the National Science Foundation.

Continued on Next Page

Justice Ginsburg has pancreatic cancer surgery



In this Oct. 10, 2007 file photo, Associated Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg speaks during 2007 Gruber Justice Prize award ceremonies at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington. Ginsburg has been hospitalized for surgery for pancreatic cancer.

Associated Press

By MARK SHERMAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had surgery Thursday after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, the court said.

Continued on Page B4



In this March 1, 2005 file photo, a U.S. military personnel member is seen at the airfield as a transport plane taxis at the U.S. air base in Manas international 19 miles from the Kyrgyz capital Bishkek. Kyrgyzstan's government submitted a draft bill to parliament Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009 to revoke the country's hosting of a U.S. base that is an important component of the Afghanistan military campaign.

Associated Press

Kyrgyzstan: talks on U.S. base continue

By ANNE GEARAN and ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) - The United States is considering resumption of military cooperation with authoritarian Uzbekistan as part of backup planning for the potential loss of a nearby air hub for troops and supplies in the widening Afghanistan war, U.S. officials said Thursday.

Continued on Page B6



President Barack Obama speaks at the Energy Department in Washington, Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009. Associated Press

STIMULUS

Continued from Front Page

There was no sign the group of self-appointed compromisers had agreed to support the

reductions, but even if they had the numbers were far short of what some were looking for. "The president made a strong case for a proposal that would

be in the neighborhood of \$800 billion," said Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, who met with Obama at the White House on Wednesday.

The legislation is a blend of federal spending and tax cuts that supporters say can create or preserve at least 3 million jobs. They cite the tax cuts for lower-income workers, as well as more money for jobless benefits, worker training, food stamps, health care, education and public works projects such as highways and mass transit. Critics contend the bill is bloated with spending for items that will not create jobs, such as smoking prevention programs or efforts to combat a future pandemic flu outbreak. And while polls show Obama is popular and the public supports recovery legislation, Republicans have maneuvered in the past several days to identify and ridicule relatively small items in the bill. Whatever the public relations battle, Republicans have tried without success so far to reduce spending in the

measure and were ready with additional attempts during the day. The legislation is a key early test for Obama, who has been in office just two weeks and has made economic recovery his top priority. His warnings have become increasingly dire, and in remarks to employees at the Department of Energy, he said, "Today, we learned that last week the number of new unemployment claims jumped - jumped to 626,000. Tomorrow, we're expecting another dismal jobs report on top of the 2.6 million jobs that we lost last year. We've lost 500,000 jobs each month for the last two months." The new jobless claims were reported by the Labor Department, and the total was the highest since October 1982, when the economy was in a steep recession. □

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Army reports alarming spike in suicides last month

By PAULINE JELINEK

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON - The Army is investigating a stunning number of suicides in January - a count that could surpass all combat deaths on two U.S. warfronts last month.

According to figures obtained by The Associated Press, there were 24 suspected suicides in January, compared to only four in January of 2008, six in January of 2007 and 10 in January of 2006.

Yearly suicides have been rising steadily since 2004 amid increasing stress on the force from long and repeated tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The service has rarely, if ever, released a month-by-month update on suicides, but officials said Thursday that they wanted to re-emphasize "the urgency and seriousness necessary for preventive action at all levels" of the force.

An alarmed Army leadership also took the unusual step of briefing congressional leaders on the information Thursday morning.

The big monthly count follows an annual report last week showing that soldiers killed themselves at the highest rate on record in 2008. The toll for all of last year - 128 confirmed and 15 pending investigation - was an increase for the fourth straight year and even surpassed the suicide rate among civilians.

"The trend and trajectory seen in January further heightens the seriousness and urgency that all of us must have in preventing suicides," Gen. Peter Chiarelli, Army vice chief of staff, said of the new monthly number Thursday.

The 24 suspected January suicides include seven confirmed and 17 still being investigated. Usually the vast majority of suspected suicides are eventually confirmed, and if that holds true it would mean that self-inflicted deaths surpassed the 16 combat deaths reported in all branches of the armed forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and other nations considered part of the global war on terror last



Army Sgt. Chris Burger, a member of the Army's 4th Brigade Combat team (airborne) 25th Infantry Division, watches a deployment ceremony for the brigade in Anchorage, Alaska as his wife Lisa leans on him on Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009. The 3,500 soldier brigade from Fort Richardson, Alaska is being sent to Afghanistan for 12 months. The brigade returned for a 14-month tour in Iraq in November and December 2007.

Associated Press

month.

In announcing the 2008 figures last week, the Army said it would hold special training from Feb. 15 to March 15 to help

troops recognize suicidal behaviors and to intervene if they see such behavior in a buddy. After that, the Army also plans a suicide prevention program for all

soldiers from the top of the chain of command down. Yearly increases in suicides have been recorded since 2004, when there were 64 all year. Officials said they

found that the most common factors were soldiers suffering problems with their personal relationships, legal or financial issues and problems on the job. But Army Secretary Pete Geren acknowledged last week that officials have been stumped by the spiraling cases. "Why do the numbers keep going up? We cannot tell you," Geren said at a Pentagon press conference last week. "We can tell you that across the Army we're committed to doing everything we can to address the problem." The relentless rise in suicides has frustrated the service, coming despite numerous attempts to stem the tide through additional suicide prevention training, the hiring of more psychiatrists and other mental health staff, and other programs both at home and at the battlefield for troops and their families. □

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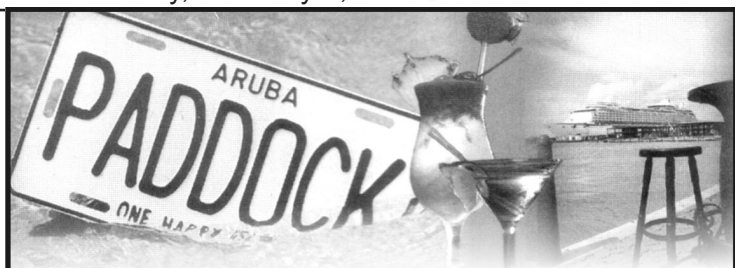
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In this Jan. 20, 2005 file photo, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg takes part in a swearing ceremony at the State Department in Washington. Ginsburg has been hospitalized for surgery for pancreatic cancer.

GINSBURG

Continued from Page B1

Pancreatic cancer is often deadly, although the court said doctors apparently found Ginsburg's cancer at an early stage.

Ginsburg, 75, had the surgery at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. She will remain in the hospital for seven to 10 days, said her surgeon, Dr. Murray Brennan, according to a release issued by the court. The hospital had no comment on Ginsburg.

The only woman on the nine-person court, Ginsburg has been a justice since 1993. She is a liberal-leaning justice who has been vocal in recent years about the court's more conservative stance.

Apointments made by former President George W. Bush and other Republican

presidents turned the court in the conservative direction. But with five justices 70 or older - Ginsburg is the second oldest justice - President Barack Obama, a Democrat, could reshape the court, especially if he wins a second term in 2012. The justices serve lifetime appointments.

If Ginsburg or another justice leaves the court, it falls to Obama to pick a successor. Anyone he might choose to replace her probably would be as liberal as she, if not more so, keeping in place the 5-4 conservative tilt of the court. Obama expressed hope for her speedy recovery, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said Thursday, and offered his thoughts and prayers.

In 1999, Ginsburg had surgery for colon cancer and had chemotherapy and radiation treatment. The new cancer was discovered during a routine, annual exam late last month at the National Institutes of Health.

A CAT scan revealed a tumor measuring about 1 centimeter across at the center of the pancreas, the court said.

Ginsburg had recently told her former law clerks and others that she envisioned serving on the court into her 80s, although those comments were made before the latest diagnosis.

In her previous bout with cancer, Ginsburg received treatment throughout the court's term and never missed a day on the bench.

The justices hold their next private conference on Feb. 20 and return to the bench from

their winter break on Feb. 23. The court's announcement offered few details about the surgery.

Pancreatic cancer is one of the most deadly cancers: Nearly 38,000 cases a year are diagnosed and overall, fewer than 5 percent of patients survive five years.

The reason: Fewer than one in 10 cases are diagnosed at an early stage - like Ginsburg's appears to be - before the cancer has begun spreading through the abdomen and beyond. That's because early pancreatic cancer produces few symptoms other than vague indigestion.

Even when caught early, surgery for pancreatic cancer is arduous. Doctors typically remove parts of the pancreas, stomach and intestines. Radiation and chemotherapy are common after surgery.

Ginsburg's prognosis depends on a number of factors, including whether the tumor, despite its small size, had begun spreading to the lymph nodes, and what specific type it was. Most are aggressive, although a small proportion of patients have what Dr. John Marshall, a pancreatic cancer specialist at Georgetown University Hospital, calls "quieter ones." "We want to be in that early group so we can have the surgery and have a potential chance at cure, but it is a big operation and a disease that does tend to spread even very early," he cautioned.

Even those few patients who qualify for surgery seldom are cured by it. □

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Transport company loses inmate on way to Philly

By JOANN LOVIGLIO

Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA – A private prison transportation company lost an attempted-murder suspect somewhere between Florida and Pennsylvania, leading to a search for the cuffed and shackled inmate and drawing complaints that such companies are poorly regulated.

The discovery Thursday was at least the second escape in six months involving an inmate being moved by Prisoner Transportation Services of America LLC. Still, industry critics said the major issue is not escapes, but mistreatment of inmates and poor traveling conditions.

Authorities searched for the suspect who escaped late Wednesday or early Thursday while en route from Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Sylvester Mitchell, 33, was being extradited to face attempted murder charges in Philadelphia, where he once lived. He was gone when the van arrived at 3 a.m. Thursday at a police station.

Authorities said it was unclear how or where Mitchell escaped. Other inmates and guards said they don't remember seeing him after the van's previous stop in Annapolis, Md.

Prisoner Transportation Services, based in Nashville, Tenn., says it is the largest U.S. firm of its type, moving more than 100,000 inmates

nationwide each year. The company states on its Web site that its agents are highly trained and "most have military and/or criminal justice backgrounds."

A spokesman for Prisoner Transportation Services, who declined to identify himself before hanging up, said Thursday that the company had no comment.

A shackled inmate escaped in September at Philadelphia International Airport while in the custody of a Prisoner Transportation Services guard and was captured a week later in Elkton, Md.

Taariq Ali, 43, formerly of Wilmington, Del., was serving a life sentence for attempted murder and a weapons charge. He was transferred in 1995 to California and was being returned to Delaware when he escaped Sept. 12.

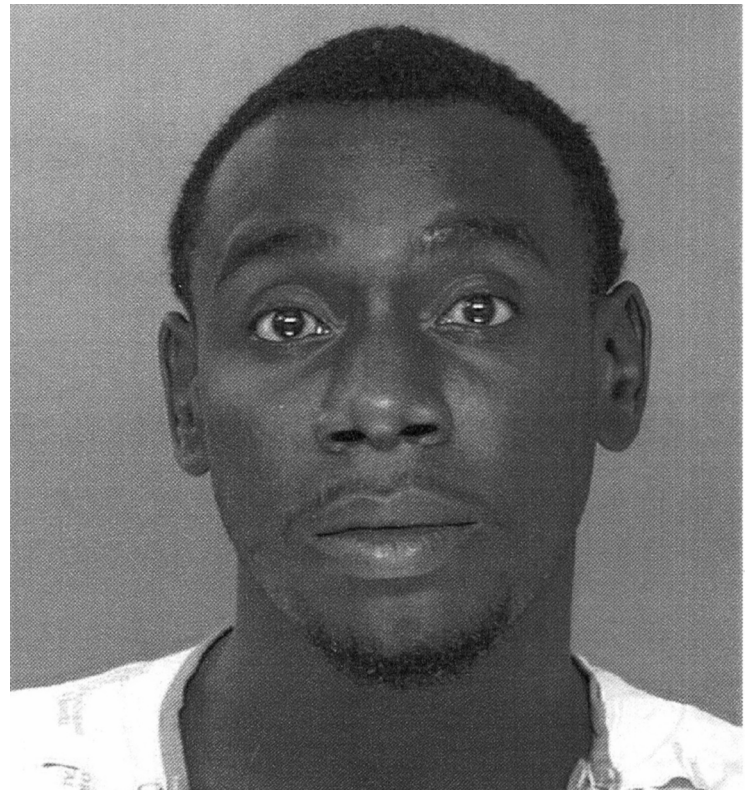
The Delaware Department of Corrections said at the time that Prisoner Transportation Services did not notify state officials until two days later. The state uses private contractors because it is not authorized to move prisoners

across state lines.

Corrections spokesman John Painter said Thursday that the department is "no longer involved with Prisoner Transportation Services" but declined to say whether it was using a new contractor or had transferred any prisoners since the September escape.

Though prisoner mistreatment appears to be more commonplace than escapes in transit, the lack of oversight and regulation of the industry makes it difficult to determine how widespread problems are, said Margaret Winter, associate director of the ACLU National Prison Project in Washington. Because they are privately owned, prison transportation companies are not required to release data on escapes, accidents and numbers of inmates they transfer. It's also unclear exactly how many such companies exist, because many are "thinly staffed, fly-by-night operations" that quickly close up shop when they're sued, Winter said.

"One thing that's clear is that the goal with all these companies is to pick up as



many bodies along the way as they can to squeeze out the most profits," she said. "We've had many reports of prisoners being taken on weeks-long odysseys and not getting food, water or medical attention."

A phone message left for a spokesman of the Association of Private Correctional and Treatment Organizations, an industry group, was not immediately returned. □

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Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, right, and Spain's King Juan Carlos, left, inspect an honor guard upon the King's arrival at Gadhafi's residence in Tripoli, Libya, late Friday, Jan. 23, 2009.

Associated Press

KYRGYZSTAN

Continued from Page B1

Defense officials say they are examining options for supply routes through a semicircle of nations from Central Asia to the Persian Gulf that could be used in place of strategic Manas Air Base in the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan.

Uzbekistan, a hard-line former Soviet satellite with rigid economic controls, is a surprise contender because diplomatic

relations between the United States and Uzbekistan are rocky at best. After a brief 1990s rapprochement with the United States, the Uzbeks expelled American forces from a base there in 2005, and the two nations have traded accusations ever since.

Defense officials said planning to substitute for Manas is a preliminary hedge in case the Bishkek government makes good on a threat to expel the United States from a hub

serving about 15,000 U.S. personnel coming and going from Afghanistan each month, along with 500 tons of goods a month.

Defense officials spoke on condition of anonymity because the plans are preliminary and the United States still is negotiating with Kyrgyzstan about continued use of the base. Several officials said that dispute is likely to come down to money: Either the United States agrees to a significant increase in rent, or Kyrgyzstan will yield to Russian pressure to kick the Americans out.

Asked about the Kyrgyz situation in an appearance at the State Department, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said it was troubling but would not impede U.S. plans to expand its military presence in Afghanistan. She said the Pentagon was "conducting an examination as to how else we would proceed" in the event the Manas air base is no longer available.

"It's regrettable that this is under consideration by the government of Kyrgyzstan," Clinton told reporters, "and we hope to have further discussions with them. But we will proceed in a very effective manner no matter what the outcome of the Kyrgyzstan government's deliberations might be."

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs called the Manas base a vital hub for Afghanistan and said the United States is trying to "remedy" the problem with Kyrgyzstan. The United States set up Manas and a base in neighboring Uzbekistan in 2001 to back operations in Afghanistan. Uzbekistan expelled U.S. troops from the base on its territory in 2005, leaving Manas as the only U.S. military facility in the immediate region.

Besides opening new supply routes from Uzbekistan and other Central Asian nations, another potential option, although one with significant

logistical problems, would be a new air supply route from the United Arab Emirates, one official said.

"It's just at the point of looking at it. There aren't cost estimates yet," or other crucial data that the new Obama administration would need, and no option has emerged as a preference, one official said.

"We have to consider that now," the official said of the potential loss of the base, "and we are."

Seldom has a country fallen faster from Washington's grace than Uzbekistan, the result largely of the attacks by heavily armed government forces against peaceful demonstrators in the eastern city of Andijan in 2005. Hundreds are believed to have died.

Uzbek President Islam Karimov, whom human rights groups call a strongman who tolerates no dissent, bristled at Western criticism after the massacre. □



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February 6th

SCHEDULE FOR WEEK 5

FEBRUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 11

*matinee: saturday and sunday | late show: friday and saturday

AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD					
R	ROLE MODELS	daily: 4:10 matinee: 12:00	6:15 2:05	8:20 late show:	10:25 12:30 NEW
PG-13	TAKEN	daily: 4:05 matinee: 12:05	6:05 2:05	8:05 late show:	10:05 12:00
R	CHANGELING	daily: 6:30 matinee: 12:10		8:30 late show:	9:20 12:10
PG-13	YES MAN	daily: 5:20 matinee: 12:45	6:30 3:00	7:30 late show:	9:45 11:55
PG	MARLY & ME	daily: 4:30 matinee: 1:55	6:30 3:00	7:00 late show:	9:35 12:05
PG	INKHEART	daily: 4:15 matinee: 11:55	6:15 2:05	8:20 late show:	10:25 12:30
PG	HOTEL FOR DOGS	daily: 5:50 matinee: 1:30	8:00 3:40	10:10 late show:	12:20 12:20

AT PASEO HERENCIA					
PG-13	HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU	daily: 1:15 matinee: 1:15	6:30 3:55	9:10 late show:	11:50 NEW
R	ROLE MODELS	daily: 4:00 matinee: 11:55	6:10 1:55	8:15 late show:	10:20 12:40 NEW
PG-13	YES MEN	daily: 1:05 matinee: 1:05	5:40 3:25	7:50 late show:	10:05 12:20
PG	BRIDE WARS	daily: 4:05 matinee: 12:05	6:05 2:05	8:00 late show:	10:00 12:05
R	UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS	daily: 4:20 matinee: 12:15	6:20 2:20	8:30 late show:	10:25 12:30
PG	HOTEL FOR DOGS	daily: 3:35 matinee: 1:20	5:50 3:40	8:00 late show:	10:10 12:30

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Puerto Rico man charged in tourist slaying

By DANICA COTO

Associated Press Writer

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A Puerto Rican man whose mother once slit the throats of two children was charged Thursday with killing a pregnant U.S. tourist in the same way after stuffing her in the trunk of his car.

Eliezer Marquez Navedo also faces two counts of rape and one count of kidnapping after police said he ambushed the woman while she jogged in the eastern coastal town of Fajardo.

“He opened the trunk, he waited for her to pass by and he forced her into the trunk,” said Antonio Lopez, Fajardo’s police investigations chief.

Marquez, who could face up to life in prison, walked into court with his head down for a closed hearing in which the charges were announced. He did not enter a plea and does not have a lawyer yet.

“Justice is being done for this victim,” prosecutor Francisco Sanchez said outside court. “In this case, there will be no negotiation. He will face the full consequences.”

Police said Marquez admitted abducting Sara Kuszak after seeing her jogging alone.

She used her cell phone to make a desperate call for help from the trunk of her kidnapper’s car Wednesday, about an hour before she was found dead. The FBI then used the signal from the phone to help locate the suspect, whose shirt and pants were covered with blood at the time of his capture.

Marquez’s mother, Ines Navedo, was convicted of slashing the throats of a brother and sister, ages 2 and 3, in 1992, and served seven years in prison before being released on parole with an electronic ankle bracelet for good behavior. She originally was sentenced to 26 years in prison.

Relatives of the victims told authorities that Navedo attacked the children because she was angry the family had shunned her after learning she apparently was HIV positive, said retired police officer Pablo Roman, who investigated the case.

A jury later found her guilty of

second-degree murder because she was under the influence of drugs and alcohol, Roman said.

Navedo violated her parole once for using drugs in 2005 and was ordered to undergo treatment, said parole board president Gloria Ortiz.

Marquez has seven children, two with the woman he was living with, and five with a woman he is married to, police officer Arsenio Rodriguez said.

“He told me he felt bad because he didn’t know (Kuszak) was pregnant,” he said. “He was crying and telling me he was sorry because he has a daughter and knew he had made a big mistake.”

Kuszak, 35, who moved to Savannah, Georgia, from San Francisco about five years ago, arrived Tuesday night in Puerto Rico, where she met up with her fiancé and several friends.

Kuszak, who worked on sailboats and part-time in real estate and catering, was five months pregnant, friends said.

Friend John Everette said he got to know her better after



Police escort Eliezer Marquez Navedo, 36, center, before his arraignment in connection with the murder of US tourist Sara Kuszak in Fajardo, eastern Puerto Rico, Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009. Police say Navedo confessed to killing Kuszak, who was pregnant, after kidnapping her when she was jogging. Navedo apparently acted alone in the killing of Kuszak, who was stuffed into the trunk of a car and made a desperate call for help on her cell phone, but was later found dead, according to police.

Associated Press

spending three weeks on a yacht with her, her fiancé, Cheshire McIntosh, and a couple other friends.

“She made sure that everybody else was happy,” he said. “If somebody was by themselves,

she always made it a point, I noticed, that she would go and talk to them and make sure they were included in the group. ... “She was a charismatic force of nature. It’s a terrible tragedy.” □

More snow snarls travel across Britain, Ireland

LONDON (AP) - The second heavy snowfall to hit Britain this week caused major travel delays Thursday, and roads and airports in neighboring Ireland also suffered snow-related shutdowns.

Birmingham and East Midlands Airports in central England, Luton Airport north of London and Dublin Airport outside the Irish capital reported mass flight cancellations as officials struggled to keep runways clear of snow and ice.

Train operators reported delays on routes linking London with western England and Wales after up to 4 inches (10 centimeters) of snow fell overnight in south Wales and western and central England.

In London, however, it rained. The city was still recovering from its heaviest snowfall in

almost 20 years on Monday, when schools were closed, public transport all but collapsed and millions of workers stayed home.

British forecasters said more heavy snow was likely Friday in London and across southern England, and predicted more travel disruptions.

The Dublin Airport Authority said more than 170 flights had to be canceled Thursday, but the airport planned to reopen Friday.

Wet snowflakes fell hard during Dublin’s rush hour Thursday night, snarling roads so badly that some commuters opted to check into hotels for the night instead.

Dublin’s bus operator said it had to curtail services on eight routes because of dangerous road conditions. □



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People from all over the world get together at Bugaloe: they have a few drinks,

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Bugaloe's daily Happy Hours are considered the starting signal for an evening of partying on the island. Locals mingle with visitors and raise their glasses. When you get hungry, order a scrumptious burger, a gourmet pizza, tasty wings or a salad and party on. The night is young, the world is going crazy and you are right in the middle of a super happening. What's not to like? A twice-a-month live breakfast radio show on Fri-

day mornings with a spectacular breakfast buffet will keep you entertained as well. **A hot tip:** Bugaloe Beach Bar puts on live bands on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Joyride, Lotus (YouTube keywords: lotus, bugaloe) and Marisela & Aquarius (YouTube keywords: marisela, confidential, 2008) are playing the stars from the sky. These bands are drawing the crowds, so be there or be square! On those nights the young as well as the young-at-heart are having the time of their lives. Photos of Bugaloe's happy times can be viewed at www.bugaloe.com. Don't forget to put your own movie of you and your friends having a whale of a time at Bugaloe on the web and enjoy being famous, crazy and hilarious. So upload, upload! We are looking forward to seeing you on YouTube or live in action.



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At Papillon Restaurant in The Village Henri Charrière would have had the time of his life



PALM BEACH - Henri Charrière, one of the world's most famous prisoners, would surely have had the time of his life at Papillon Restaurant in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort. Nicknamed Papillon because of the butterfly tattoo on his chest, the Frenchman was the first convict to escape from Devil's Island, something that nobody had ever done before. Charrière's thrilling, gripping autobiography has been the concept behind Papillon Restaurant. The décor, the decorations and especially the restrooms wink

at the thirteen terrible years Papillon spent in prison in French Guyana. Papillon Restaurant's menu reflects the Frenchman's arduous journey to freedom: classic French dishes have been dusted with daring Caribbean flair and are a culinary journey for your taste buds. The spacious outside terrace is perfect for casual fine dining; the

iron bars, flecks of rust and stains on the walls make one very glad not to be in Papillon's shoes in the 1940's! Charrière would undoubtedly have loved 'his' place on Aruba: this is luxury living for anyone!

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps trains at the Meadowbrook Aquatic Center, Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

USA Swimming suspends Phelps for three months

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Michael Phelps has been suspended from competition for three months by USA Swimming, the latest fallout from a photo that showed the Olympic great inhaling from a marijuana pipe. The sport's national governing body also cut off its financial support to Phelps for the same three-month period, effective Thursday. "This is not a situation where any anti-doping rule

was violated, but we decided to send a strong message to Michael because he disappointed so many people, particularly the hundreds of thousands of USA Swimming member kids who look up to him as a role model and a hero," the federation said in a statement. "Michael has voluntarily accepted this reprimand and has committed to earn back our trust." Phelps won eight gold medals in Beijing. □

NBA Roundup

James 52 points leads Cavaliers over Knicks

NEW YORK (AP) - LeBron James scored 52 points to join Michael Jordan as the only visiting players with multiple 50-point games at the present Madison Square Garden, leading the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 107-102 win over the New York Knicks in the NBA on Wednesday.

Two nights after Kobe Bryant set a record at the present building with 61 points, James added 11 assists and 10 rebounds to record his 21st career triple double and become the first player since Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in 1975 to have a triple-double in a 50-point game. James grabbed his final rebound with under 2 seconds left.

The Cavaliers have won four straight.

In Dallas, Josh Howard scored

23 points to lead Dallas over Portland.

Jason Terry added 20 points, while Jason Kidd had ten assists to move into fourth place on the career assist list, surpassing Oscar Robertson. Portland slipped 2-1/2 games behind Northwest Division leader Denver.

In Toronto, Los Angeles notched its fourth straight win by seeing off Toronto.

Kobe Bryant scored 36 points and Pau Gasol added 31 for the Lakers, who tuned up for Thursday's game against the Celtics - their first trip to Boston since losing last season's NBA finals.

The Raptors have lost four straight and All-Star Chris Bosh went off with a sprained right knee in the final quarter.

In Auburn Hills, Michigan,

Rodney Stuckey hit two jump shots in the final 90 seconds to get Detroit home against Miami. Stuckey finished with 18 points for the Pistons.

In New Orleans, the hosts slumped to their fourth straight loss, beaten by Chicago.

Derrick Rose scored 21 points, and Ben Gordon had 19 for the Bulls.

In other NBA games Wednesday night, it was: the Los Angeles Lakers 115, Toronto 107; Golden State 124, Phoenix 112; Dallas 104, Portland 99; Orlando 125, the Los Angeles Clippers 96; New Jersey 115, Washington 88; Chicago 107, New Orleans 93; Denver 114, Oklahoma City 113; Detroit 93, Miami 90; Atlanta 94, Minnesota 86; and Memphis 104, Houston 93. □



New York Knicks guard Nate Robinson (4) and New York Knicks center David Lee (42) try to block Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) as he drives toward the basket in the second quarter of their NBA basketball game at Madison Square Garden in New York, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009.

Associated Press

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Villegas opens with 63 in bid for odd hat trick

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Camilo Villegas eagled early and made a string of birdies late for a 9-under 63 on the easier North Course, giving him a three-shot lead in the Buick Invitational on Thursday as he goes for a quirky hat trick.

A victory this week would be his third straight at a tournament where Tigers Woods was the absent titleholder.

Villegas won the BMW Championship and U.S. Tour Championship last autumn - both won by Woods the previous year - and he got off to a blazing start on a cloudy, chilly day along the Pacific bluffs.

He hit a lob wedge over the bunker and into the hole for eagle on the par-4 second hole to quickly put his name atop the leaderboard, then built his lead with three birdies in a four-hole span on the back nine.

Davis Love III and Aaron Baddeley each shot 66 on the North while playing in the same group.

The best score on the South Course, site of the U.S. Open last summer, belonged to Scott Sterling and Matthew Goggin at 69. Given the disparity of these courses, the leaderboard doesn't sort itself out until everyone has played both sides.

Phil Mickelson, a three-time winner of the Buick Invitational, put together a solid round of 70 on the South Course with a few big par saves, including a 15-footer on his final hole.

British Open and U.S. PGA champion Pádraig Harrington, making his U.S. season debut, started strong with three birdies on the opening four holes of the North Course, but a four-putt double bogey on the 17th sent him to a 71.

Woods was the four-time defending champion at the Buick Invitational, but still was recovering from season-ending surgery on his left knee - a week after his U.S. Open playoff victory.

"I'm glad he's not here," Villegas said. "He plays pretty good around here, I can tell you that."

Villegas wasn't too shabby on the North Course, which was more than 3½ strokes easier than the South, but still no bargain with blustery, cool conditions, along with greens that were firmer than usual with no water on them in anticipation of rain this weekend.

Coming off a missed cut last week in the FBR Open, Villegas opened with a simple birdie on the par-5 first, then made a mistake with his tee shot on the 326-yard second hole by hitting his drive to the right, 50 yards from the flag with a bunker in the way.

Using a new 63-degree sand wedge, he popped it up over the sand and never saw it go in the hole.

"I had a decent lie," Villegas said. "I just puffed it up in the air, and I knew it was good, but I didn't see the ball go in. My caddie said, 'It went in.' Early in the round, not much of a reaction."

He made some big putts on the back nine, including a 25-foot birdie on the 14th with a big break to the left. That followed a chip that bounced harder than he expected, part of the difficulty of playing the firm greens. □



Camilo Villegas, of Colombia, gets down low to read his putt on the 16th green of the North Course at Torrey Pines during the opening round of the Buick Invitational golf tournament Thursday Feb. 5, 2009 in San Diego. Villegas shot a 9-under-par 63 for the first round lead.

Associated Press

Boxer Calzaghe retires after undefeated career

LONDON (AP) - Former super-middleweight champion Joe Calzaghe retired from boxing Thursday after winning all his 46 professional fights.

"I've got no other goals to go for," he said. "That's why I am calling it a day." The 36-year-old Welshman outpointed Roy Jones Jr. in November in his last fight of a 16-year professional career. Calzaghe held the WBO super middleweight world title for more than 10 years, unifying the title against Mikkel Kessler in April 2007, before moving up to light heavyweight to fight Bernard Hopkins and Jones.

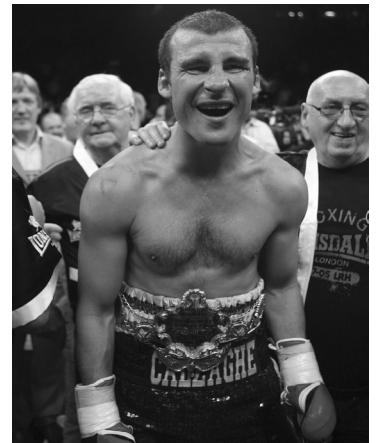
"It was a difficult decision to make but I have achieved everything I wanted to achieve in boxing," he said. "I've been world champion for 11 years, unifying the super middleweight

division, going to America and winning light heavyweight titles against great fighters like Hopkins and Roy Jones.

"I had a long think with my family. My children wanted me to give up, plus my mum. That's why I decided to call it a day and will go on to do something else."

Calzaghe said he was tempted to fight three more times to match Rocky Marciano's record of 49 wins from 49 fights, but said he lacked the hunger.

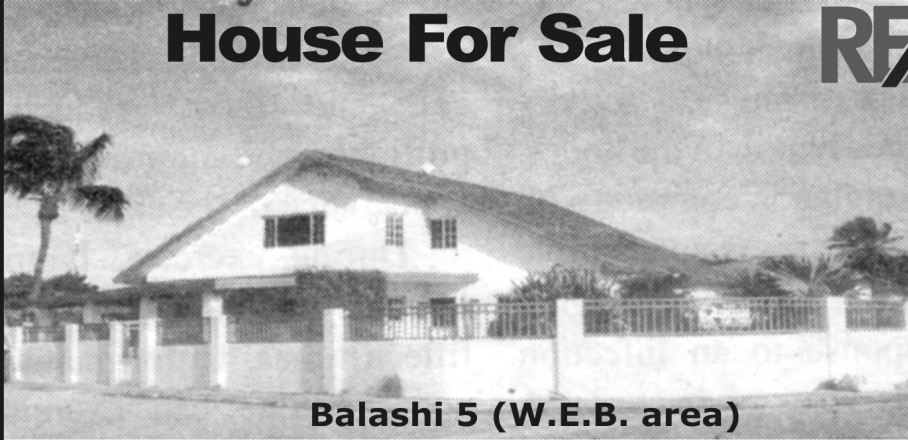
And there will be no comeback, he pledged. □



In this April 19, 2008 file photo, Joe Calzaghe, of Wales, celebrates his split decision victory over Bernard Hopkins following their light-heavyweight boxing match at the Thomas & Mack center in Las Vegas.

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week#2-17 Occidental Grand-2Bd Supreme, OceanFront US\$30,000	Week# 7 Aruban Resort - 3Bdr R#2506a, poolv - US\$30,000	week# 8- La Cabana Studio. R#107b, Oceanview- US\$7,500
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week#2-17 Occidental Grand-1B Delux, OceanView - US\$14,000	Week# 6 - The Mill Resort-1Bdr R#220a, Poolview - US\$7,500	week#3-4, DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#416, Oceanfrnt-US\$25,000pw
week#2-17 Occidental Grand-JR Suite - OceanView - US\$16,000	Floating W#18-50 Marriott Ocean 2Bdr, Oceanview -US\$ 20,000	week# 4 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr R#901- Oceanview-US\$11,000
week# 1-17 Occidental Grand-JR Suite, Oceanview - US\$13,000	Platinum W#1-17. Marriott Ocean 1Bdr, OceanView-US\$18,000	week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr. R#1001, Oceanv- US\$10,000
week# 1-17 Occidental Grand-EX Studio, PoolView - US\$9,000	Platinum W#1-17. Marriott Ocean 1Bdr, OceanFront-US\$23,000	week#5-DiviPhoenix-2Bdr/2bath. R#206, Oceanfront US\$20,000
week#2,3,4, -La Cabana-1Bdx R#401d, OceanFr.-US\$15,000pw	Platinum W#1-17. Marriott Ocean 2Bdr, OceanView-US\$26,000	week#6-7-DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#302, Oceanfro.-US\$22,000pw
week# 5 & 6-La Cabana - 1Bdr R#401d-OceanFront-US\$18,000	Platinum W#1-17. Marriott Ocean 2Bdr, OceanFront-US\$60,000	week# 3 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr R#209-OceanFront- US\$10,000
week# 6 -DiviPhoenix -1Bdr R#601-Oceanview-US\$10,000	week# 1 -Costa Linda - 2Bdr. R#2031, Ocean/pool-US\$25,000	week# 5 - Aruban Resort - 1-Bdr R#5537g-Poolview-US\$7,000
week# 7 - Renaissance - 1Bdr R#2537, Pool Ocean-US\$15,000	week#1 Costa Linda - 2Bdr R#1014, OceanView-US\$24,000	weeks# 8, - La Cabana - 1Bdr R#407a, Oceanview-US\$9,000
week# 3 & 4-Renaissance.-1Bdr R#2142, Oceanv-US\$13,000pw	week# 6&7, Aruban Resort-1Bdr R#4541, Poolview-US\$8,000pw	week#1-2,-3 -DiviLinks - 1Bdr R#4226, Ocean/P-US\$16,000pw
Platinum W#1-17, Marriott Surf - 3bdr, OceanView -US\$50,000	week# 4, Costa Linda - 2Bdr. R#2012, Oceanview.-US\$24,000	week# 4 - DiviLinks - Studio. R#2108, Poolv - US\$14,000
For Rent: DiviPhoenix week#4&5 2009 R#108, - US\$1,500 perwk	week# 6, Costa Linda - 2 Bdr. R#1010, Oceanview-US\$24,000	week# 4-DiviLinks -1 Bdr. R#2105, Poolview-US\$16,000
week# 8, La Cabana -2Bdr R#301e, OceanFront-US\$25,000	week# 5 - Costa Linda - 2 Bdr. R#3004, Ocean/Pool-US\$26,000	week# 5- DiviLinks - Studio R#2214, PoolV.- US\$14,000
week# 2&3, Renaissance-1Bdr. R#2327, POV-US\$13,000(both)	week# 4&5, Costa Linda -2Br 4th floor, OceanP-US\$60,000	week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 2 Bdr R#302, OceanFront-US\$23,000
week# 1,2,3,4 ArubanRes-1Bdr. R#1586, poolview- US\$8,000pw	week# 4 & 5 DiviPhoenix -studio R#108, Oceanfr.-US\$12,000pw	week# 7-DiviPhoenix - studio R#105, OceanPo, US\$11,500
week# 1,2,3,4 ArubanRes-1Bdr. R#3586, poolv- US\$7,000pw	week# 2, Aruban Resort-1 Bdr. R#4584, PoolView-US\$.8,475	week# 3 - DiviVillage - Studio. R#8303, Pool Ocean-US\$8,000
week# 4 Aruban Resort- 2Bdr. R#5510, poolview- US\$12,000	2x week2-17, OccidentalGr-1Bd. supreme, Oceanfr. - US\$35,000	week# 1-RIU Palace - 2Bdr R#269, Oceanfront-US\$18,000
For Rent. ParadiseB- week 4&5 R#108, poolv- US\$1,500pw	week# 2, ParadiseBV - 2Bdr. R# 207, Ocean/Pool-US\$15,000	week# 5&6-La Cabana - 2Bdr R#440b&c, Oce/p-US\$20,000pw
Platinum W#1-17. Marriott Surf. 2Bdr, OceanSide -US\$33,000	week# 3&4, ParadiseB.V - 1Bdr. R#101, Ocean/p-US\$12,000pw	week# 5 - La Cabana -1Br R#336a, Ocean/pool-US\$11,000
Platinum W#1-17. Marriott Surf. 2Bdr, OceanView US\$30,000	week# 4, ParadiseB.V - 2Bdr. R#129, Oceanfront - US\$24,000	week#11, Dutchvillage- 2Bdr R#46&49, PoolV US\$18,000pw
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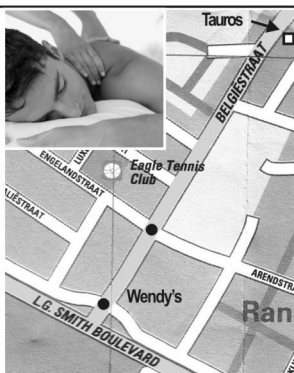
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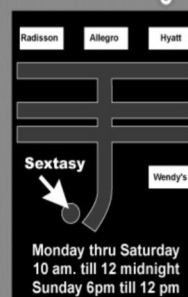
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Después de casi 7 años secuestrado

Guerrilla de las FARC libera a ex diputado en selva de Colombia

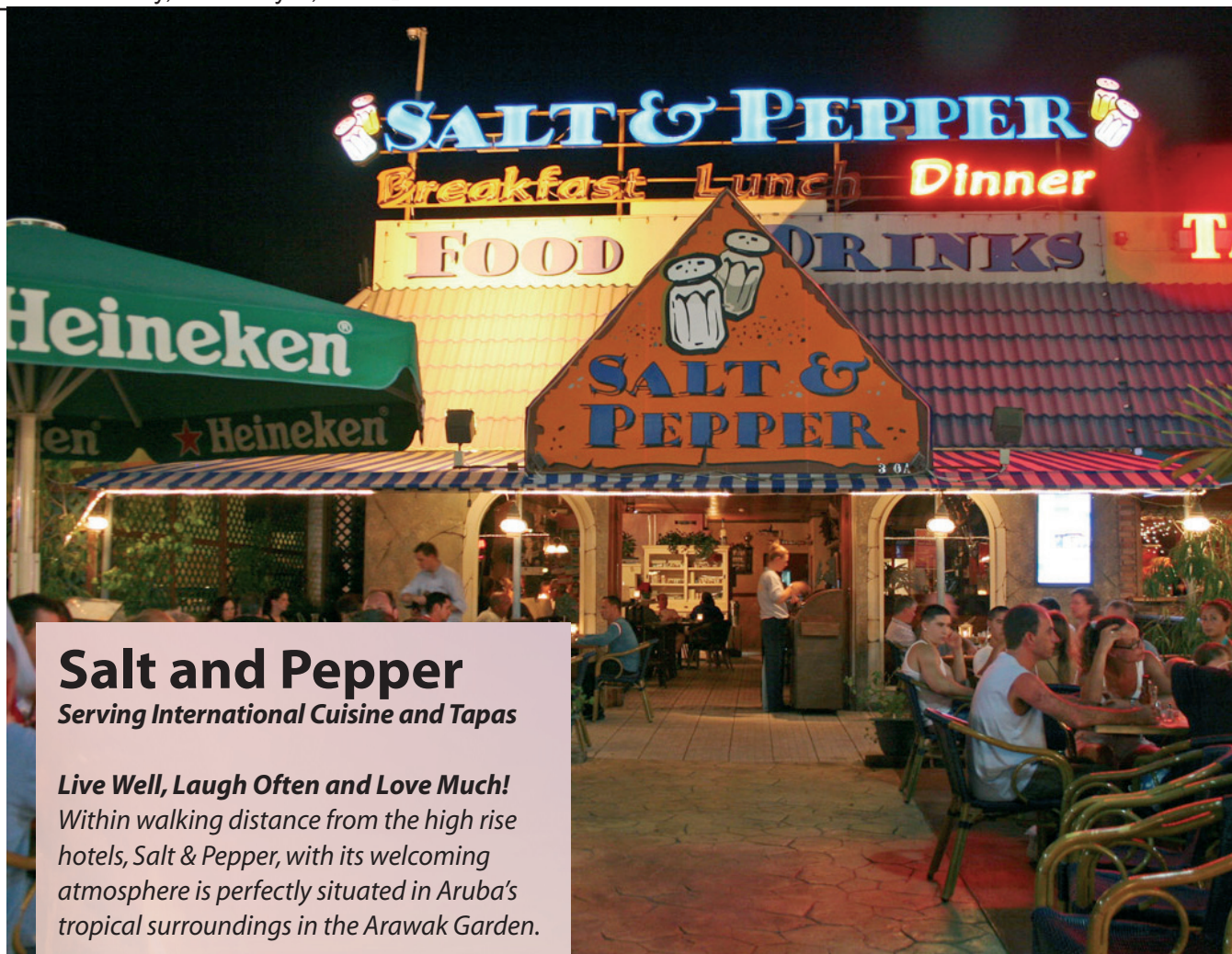
CALI, Colombia (Reuters) - Las FARC liberaron el jueves en la selva del sudoeste de Colombia al ex diputado Sigifredo López, el último de seis secuestrados que la guerrilla entregó unilateralmente en un intento por facilitar un acuerdo de intercambio de rehenes con el Gobierno. López, de 45 años y quien permaneció casi siete años en poder de las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC), formaba parte de un grupo de rehenes que el grupo rebelde busca intercambiar por 500 guerrilleros presos y era el último político que permanecía secuestrado por los rebeldes. La entrega se produjo en una zona selvática del departamento del Cauca a una misión humanitaria liderada por la senadora Piedad Córdoba y de la que hicieron parte delegados del Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja (CICR) que viajaron en un helicóptero suministrado por Brasil. El grupo se trasladó hasta un aeropuerto en Cali, donde López, quien vestía

camiseta y pantalón oscuro, una gorra y botas de caucho, se enlazó en un abrazo con sus dos hijos Lucas y Sergio con quienes lloró emotivamente. El político, quien recibió en sus manos rosas rojas y blancas, también se abrazó en medio de lágrimas con su madre y con su esposa Patricia Nieto. Luego caminó y saludó a sus amigos; al ministro del Interior, Fabio Valencia, y a otros representantes del Gobierno que lo recibieron mientras una banda tocaba ritmos colombianos dándole la bienvenida. “Vengo bien, vengo bien, en últimas vengo bien, después de que estoy vivo y libre, lo demás no es problema”, dijo López en sus primeras declaraciones, antes de presidir una manifestación pública en una céntrica plaza de Cali. El ex diputado lucía en buenas condiciones de salud y permanentemente mezclaba sonrisas con llanto. LasenadoraCórdobadijoque la operación fue compleja y que el helicóptero no pudo

aterrizar por completo en medio de la selva, por lo que los integrantes de la misión humanitaria debieron saltar. “MIS COMPAÑEROS FUERON ASESINADOS” Previamente las FARC liberaron a tres policías, un soldado y al ex gobernador del departamento del Meta Alan Jara en misiones que contaron con el apoyo logístico de Brasil. Pero en poder de la guerrilla continúan 22 efectivos de las Fuerzas Armadas con los que las FARC buscan presionar al Gobierno del presidente Alvaro Uribe a negociar un acuerdo humanitario. Fue Sigifredo López el único de los 12 rehenes que sobrevivió a una masacre de las FARC en junio del 2007 cuando, según el Gobierno, un error de comunicaciones entre dos comandos rebeldes provocó un combate en medio del que fueron asesinados los políticos. “El terrible asesinato de mis compañeros, eso es una huella en el alma que



El ex diputado Sigifredo López saluda tras ser liberado de su secuestro en el aeropuerto de Cali, Colombia, 5 feb 2009. el pueblo colombiano “Mis compañeros jamás podrá olvidar. Mis compañeros eran sólo vida y se las arrebataron miserablemente”, dijo con la voz entrecortada frente a una multitud, al recordar a sus compañeros de cautiverio. “Mis compañeros jamás merecieron ser asesinados como fueron asesinados por las FARC el 18 de junio, a las once y media, del año 2007”, aseguró el político quien dijo que pese al sufrimiento que soportó no guarda odio a la guerrilla□



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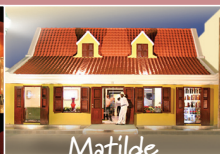
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